REMARKS

In the office action mailed December 28, 2004, Claims 1-2, 5, 20, and 32 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by Belliveau (U.S. Patent No. 6,474,837). In addition, Claims 3-4, 6-19, 21-30, and 32-35 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. Finally, Claim 31 is allowed.

Applicants have rewritten the rejected Independent Claims 1, 1, 20, and 32 in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. As such, Applicants have cancelled without prejudice dependent claims 2, 3, 5, 21, and 33. Consequently, it is respectively submitted that Applicants have overcome each of the Examiner's rejections. It is submitted, therefore, that all currently pending Claims 1, 4, 6-19, 21-31, and 34-35 are in condition for allowance and early notice to this effect is earnestly solicited.

If there are any additional matters which may be resolved through a telephone interview, the Examiner is respectfully requested to contact Applicant's undersigned representative.

Date: 4/20/05

By: Thomas E. Wettermann Reg. No. 41,523

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